THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Shri Babu Matheu, a Keralite youth, has claimed to have achieved success in producing synthetic petrol.

(b) CSIR scientists have been asked to verify the claim and examine the product.

Defence Purchases from Foreign Countries

4306. SHRI M.A. BABY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the names of the countries with whom we have contracts for defence purchases and the details thereof for the last three years including the amounts for which defence equipments have been purchased from different countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): It will not be in the interest of national security to divulge the information sought.

Assistance to Orissa Government of Social Security Scheme

4307. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details of the financial assistance that have been provided to the Orissa Government for social security schemes for the weaker sections ;

(b) what are the social security schemes that are being undertaken or proposed to be under taken in Orissa State; and

(c) the number of families which are likely to be benefited in the State during the next three years ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI); (a) The financial assistance from the Centre to the Government of Orissa for the State Plans Schemes is given as block grant.

(b) and (c) The major Social Security Schemes being undertaken or proposed to be undertaken by the Centre for weaker sections in the country including Orissa are :—

(i) Personal Accident Insurance Social Security Scheme,

(ii) Hut Insurance Scheme, for poor families in rural areas,

(iii) Group Insurance Scheme for Landless Agricultural Labourers.

Many poor families in Orissa would benefit from these schemes.

Projects under implementation in Orissa

4308. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) what are the centrally sponsored engineering projects under implementation in Orissa :

(b) whether the delay in completion of those projects is leading to cost escalation; and

(c) if so, the details of steps taken to expedite the execution of those projects ?